

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
100 STATE STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

Lexington

ss 4 Oakland St.

Historic Name G.H. Emery House

Original residence

Present residence

Ownership: ☒ Private individual  
Private organization

Public

Original owner

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.

## DESCRIPTION:

Date

1894

Source Minute-man, June 15, 1894

Style Queen Anne

Architect

Exterior wall fabric white wood clapboards

Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates)

Moved

Date

Approx. acreage .2 (10610')

Setting At the foot of Meriam Hill; residential street developed primarily in the late nineteenth century; Merriam's factory is across the street.

Recorded by Henry V. Taves; Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Comm.

Date 6/24/80; March, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and  
evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

Basic rectangle w/irregularities.. Cross gable.  
Front left corner cut out, long console bracket under eave. Many window  
types including stained glass. Front door w/classical surround (columns, entablature)  
& stained glass side light. 3/4 width front porch. Carved fan ornament over  
end-gable windows.

(See Continuation Sheet)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history  
and how the building relates to the development of the community)

It is interesting to speculate as to what made George Emery and his  
neighbor at 2 Oakland Street, Matthew Merriam, move from more substantial  
houses elsewhere on Meriam Hill. Emery had built a fine house on the corner  
of Meriam Street and Stetson Street 10 years earlier. Were they friends?  
Their yards were graded together. Emery, an accountant in Boston who first  
moved to Lexington in 1871, was one of the first to inhabit Meriam Hill when  
lots were being sold off primarily to wealthy commuters.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lexington Minute Man, December 1, 1893, June 15, 1894, October 19, 1894  
1889 atlas  
1906 atlas  
1887 Directory  
1894 Directory

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Lexington	Form No: 368
Property Name: 4 Oakland Street	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Typical of late nineteenth century development of Meriam Hill, this house has a number of Queen Anne decorative features: many window types, some with stained glass; elliptical fan ornament with T-shaped molded keystone over the window in each end gable; three-sided bay window under the porch with fan-light and wooden tracery; and curious doorway with attenuated Ionic columns entablature and sidelight only on the left. The front left corner of the building is cut out and the overhanging eave is supported by a long console bracket. An identical bracket embellishes the house to the left which was built at the same time. This bracket and the unusual T-shaped ornament which has been found elsewhere in Lexington (at the house on the northeast corner of Percy Road and Highland Avenue) may have been available at Muzzey's Lumber Company.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town  
LEXINGTON

Property Address  
4 OAKLAND ST.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

H

368

## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

On December 1, 1893 the *Lexington Minute-man* reported that "A new house is to be put up on Oakland street. It is to be built for Mr. Geo. H. Emery, for his own occupancy". Construction took place that spring and on June 15, 1894, the paper noted that "The new house recently completed for Mr. Geo. H. Emery, at the foot of Oakland street, is an acquisition to the locality and decidedly pleasing in its modest style of architecture". Born in Maine in 1834, George Emery came to Lexington in 1871. He worked as a bookkeeper in Boston and lived here with his wife Georgianna. George was still living here in 1922 when he would have been approximately 89 years old. By 1926 the house was occupied by Mrs. H. Herbert Collins. Mrs. Collins was still here in 1942.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Lexington Directories, various dates.  
*Lexington Minute-Man*, December 1, 1893, June 15, 1894, Oct. 19, 1894.  
Sanborn Insurance Maps, Lexington, various dates.

Supplement prepared by:  
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